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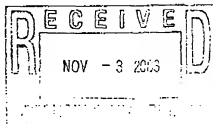
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\*\* SMALL ENTITY \*\*

Title

Finger-mounted light for variable light output



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**FINGER-MOUNTED LIGHT FOR VARIABLE LIGHT OUTPUT****BY****HARRY L. WATTS****RONALD E. LISEC****CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS**

**[0001]** The contents of this application are related to the provisional patent application, Application Number 60/400,471 filed August 2, 2002, entitled "Digit Light." The contents of this related provisional patent application are incorporated herein by reference.

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

**[0002]** 1. *Field of the Invention:* This invention relates to apparatus for improving visual feedback by illuminating a field such as a reading area, hobby area or any other field such as a surgical site during a medical procedure, and more particularly, to a finger-mounted light which, in the preferred embodiment, includes at least one light-emitting diode capable of emitting light of selected color.

**[0003]** 2. *General Background:* This invention can be used for many different applications where a beam of light needs to be positioned near a work place. Some examples are the assembly of small components by hobbyists, reaching into dark passages by mechanics, assembly or inspection of electronic components, or surgery. Physicians/surgeons who operate within a patient's body require adequate illumination of the field of operation in order to work most effectively. Numerous methods are being used to provide illumination of the field of operation.

**[0004]** For example, overhead lights equipped with parabolic mirrors and polarizing lenses are being used as a general source of non-glare lighting. However, such overhead lights must often be redirected during dental, medical or other procedures to keep the light directed at the point of interest, and the need to readjust the overhead light creates a distraction and requires additional time. Moreover, when the mechanic, hobbyist, surgeon, or physician must lean over the patient or work area to closely observe the field of operation, the overhead light is blocked. In addition, the light source